Anticipated Vacancies

4. Chairman, State Bank of India.
5. Chairman and Managing Director, Bank of India.
6. Chairman and Managing Director, Bank of Maharashtra.
7. Chairman and Managing Director, Central Bank of India.
8. Chairman and Managing Director, Syndicate Bank.

(c) The prospective incumbents to be appointed to fill up the vacancies mentioned at Sr. Nos. 1 to 6 above have been identified and approval of the competent authority have been sought for their appointments. The vacancies mentioned at Sr. Nos. 7 and 8 above shall arise only in October, 1997 and December, 1997 respectively.

Employment of clerical staff in State Bank of Indore

1092. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that clerical staff can be employed in State Bank of Indore only through SBI Recruitment Board;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Chief Manager of Connaught Circus Branch had employed computer operators without any procedure of SBI Recruitment Board;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action has been taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) State Bank of Indore has reported that its clerical staff is recruited through Banking Service Recruitment Boards located at various places in the Country. The bank has added that apart from such recruitments, certain recruitments are done by the bank directly under sport quota or on compassionate grounds in accordance with extant guidelines.

(b) The bank has reported that no such employment has been made by their Connaught Circus (New Delhi) Branch.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

Targets for collection of Excise and Customs Duties

1093. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the collection of both union excise and customs duties during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) how far these have been realised; and

(c) details of the steps taken to improve realisation through these taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Budget estimates for realisation of customs and union excise duties (exclusive of cesses not administered by the Department of Revenue) are as under:

(Rs. Crore)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Customs	25200	29500	44435
Union Excise	36531	42579	46592

(b) As per departmental records, revenue realised from customs and union excise duties (exclusive of cesses not administered by the Department of Revenue) is as under:—

(Rs. Crore)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Apr.—Jan.)
			(provisional)
Customs	26683	35502	34812
Union Excise	37467	40565	36085

(c) Appropriate legal and other administrative measures are taken from time to time to maximise collection of revenue during 1996-97.

वित्त मंत्री द्वारा किए गए विदेशी दौरे

1094. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले दो महीने के दौरान उनके द्वारा ऐसे कितने विदेशी दौरे किए गए जिनमें आर्थिक नीति संबंधी समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए, इनका देश-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने विदेशी कंपनियों को विशेष रियायतें देने का आश्वासन दिया है; यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम.पी. वीरेन्द्र कुमार): (क) वित्त मंत्री ने गत दो महीनों के दौरान ऐसी केवल एक ही यात्रा की है, अर्थात् दावोस, स्विटजरलैण्ड की यात्रा जहां उन्होंने आर्थिक नीति संबंधी मामलों से जुड़े किसी करार पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए।

(ख) सरकार की नीति विशेषकर महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों जैसे आधारढांचा और निर्यात-संभावित उद्योगों में विदेशी प्रत्यक्ष निवेश (एफ.डी.आई.) को बढ़ावा देने की है। साझे न्यूनतम कार्यक्रम में भविष्य में हासिल करने के लिए 10 बिलियन डालर के वार्षिक अंतर्प्रवाह का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

New schemes introduced by LIC

1095. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation has recently introduced two new money back schemes; and

(b) what are the main features of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India have reported that they have introduced two new plans 'Jeevan Sanchay' and 'Jeevan Sneha'. The main features of these plans are given below:—

(a) *Jeevan Sanchay*

(i) Provision for survival benefit at periodic intervals; full sum assured payable on death irrespective of the survival benefit(s) paid earlier.

(ii) Guaranteed additions to sum assured at the rate of Rs. 70 per thousand, payable on death or maturity.

(iii) Provision for loyalty addition after the policy has been in force for 5 years.

(b) *Jeevan Sneha*

The Jeevan Sneha plan which is exclusively for women provides the following benefits in addition to benefits mentioned above.

(i) No forfeiture of the policy for non-payment of premium in the first three years if the premium has been paid for two years.

(ii) Option for advance payment of premium in three instalments on which a rebate is allowed.

(iii) Coverage of pregnancy and child birth risks.

(iv) Built in accident benefits.

(v) Provision for option for pension (annuity) on maturity.

(vi) Flexibility in claiming the survival benefits. If not claimed or opted for on due date then increased survival benefit would be payable.

Soiled currency notes

1096. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether people are facing difficulties to exchange soiled currency notes;

(b) whether a large number of soiled currency notes are in the country;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to withdraw these currency notes from the market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Due to the capacity constraints of the note printing presses, banks resort to re-cycling of notes in circulation. RBI has authorised all branches of public sector banks to offer facilities, to their customers and others, to exchange soiled currency notes, including slightly mutilated notes. As and when complaints are received, these are also looked into by the RBI.

(c) and (d) Soiled notes are withdrawn in a phased manner by the Issue Offices of RBI through more than 4000 currency chests maintained at public sector banks all over the country. Such notes are also received by the Issue Offices from Govt. Departments and the public. On an average, every year, 4000 million pieces of soiled notes are withdrawn from circulation.